

The required copy of the "Notification of Missing Requirements Under 35 U.S.C. 371 in the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US)" is also enclosed.

Applicants believe that the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.821-1.825 have been met.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE SPECIFICATION

On page 4 please delete and replace the current version of the second paragraph starting at line 8 with the following replacement paragraph:

The first (N-terminal) 15 amino acids of the purified protein were determined by means of micro-sequencing. This sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1) is given in figure 4. With sequence analysis no homology with any known bacterial or eucaryotic amino acid sequence was found in databases. This is therefore a new and unique protein.

On page 8 please delete and replace the current version of the paragraph starting with “**Figure 4**” at line 19 with the following replacement paragraph:

Figure 4 shows the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 of the first 15 (N-terminal) amino acids of CHIPS (of the estimated 125 in total).

On page 11 please delete and replace the current version of the paragraph starting with “Figure 4” at line 33 and bridging page 12 and ending at line 9 with the following replacement paragraph:

Figure 4 shows the sequence SEQ ID NO: 1 of the first 35 (N-terminal) amino acids of CHIPS (of the estimated 125 in total). On the basis of this sequence (SEQ ID NO: 1) a synthetic peptide was made of the first 15 amino acids in accordance with standard Fmoc chemistry as described inter alia in De Haas et al, J. Immunol. 161:3607-3615 (1998) and Alonso de Velasco et al, Infect. Immun. 62:799-808 (1994). Antibodies generated against this peptide in rabbits (coupled to KLH in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer, Pierce, and subcutaneously immunized with Freund’s Complete Adjuvant, followed by a booster injection with Freund’s Incomplete Adjuvant), as for instance described in Alonso de Velasco et al, supra, neutralize the activity of CHIPS.